Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R
DRAFTED BY:OES/APT/BMP:TSELLIN APPROVED BY:OES/APT/BMP:AERICH MOND JR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 161761
FOL REPEAT OSLO 2571 SENT ACTION SECSTATE JUNE 20, 1975 QUOTE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSLO 2571
E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: TGEN,SV,PLOS,NO SUBJECT: EIGHTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING REFS: (A) STATE 145094 (B) OSLO 2543
1. RECOMMENDATION VII-14 OF THE EIGHTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING READS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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THE REPRESENTATIVES, RECALLING RECOMMENDATION VII-6; BEARING IN MIND THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY; REAFFIRMING THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL MANKIND THAT THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA SHALL CONTINUE FOREVER TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES AND SHALL NOT BECOME THE SCENE OR OBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL DISCORD:

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE ANTARCTIC TREATY PLACES A
SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY UPON THE CONTRACTING PARTIES
TO EXERT APPROPRIATE EFFORTS, CONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTER
OF THE UNITED NATIONS, TO ENSURE THAT NO ONE ENGAGES
IN ANY ACTIVITY IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA CONTRARY
TO THE PURPOSES OR PRINCIPLES OF THE TREATY;
CONCERNED THAT MINERAL RESOURCE EXPLORATION AND
EXPLOITATION COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT
OF THE ANTARCTIC AND OF OTHER ECOSYSTEMS DEPENDENT ON
THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT;

NOTING THE TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN POLAR MINERAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION;

CONVINCED THAT FURTHER CONSULTATIONS ON THE QUESTIONS CONCERNING ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES ARE DESIRABLE AND IN THE MEANTIME, OF THE NEED FOR RESTRAINT WHILE SEEKING TIMELY AGREED SOLUTIONS BY THE CONSULTATIVE PARTIES TO PROBLEMS RAISED BY SUCH QUESTIONS; AND NOTING THE INTENTION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO KEEP THESE MATTERS UNDER REVIEW IN THE LIGHT OF POSSIBLE ACTIONS BY OTHERS. AWARE THAT AVAILABLE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND/OR EXPLOITATION IN THE ANTARCTIC HAS BEEN INADEQUATELY STUDIED AND THAT THE CONSULTATIVE PARTIES BEAR A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA;

AWARE ALSO THAT ANTARCTIC GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURES HAVE NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY INVESTIGATED; RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR FURTHER STUDY AND CONSIDERATION OF THESE MATTERS;

RESOLVED THAT THE CONSULTATIVE PARTIES SHOULD SEEK TO DEVELOP AN APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF VALUABLE MINERAL RESOURCES IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA, BEARING IN MIND THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY;

RECOMMEND TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS THAT:

1. THE SUBJECT "ANTARCTIC RESOURCES--THE
QUESTION OF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION"
BE FULLY STUDIED IN ALL ITS ASPECTS IN RELATION
TO THE TREATY AND BE THE SUBJECT OF CONSULTATION

AMONG THEM WITH A VIEW TO CONVENING A SPECIAL PREPARATORY MEETING DURING 1976 THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED PRECISELY THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, THE SPECIAL PREPARATORY MEETING TO REPORT TO THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING.

- 2. THE UNDERTAKE TO STUDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS OF MINERAL RESOURCE ACTIVITIES IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS, INCLUDING JOINT STUDIES AMONG THEM, AND THAT THEY EXCHANGE THE RESULTS OF SUCH STUDIES:
- 3. THEY INVITE SCAR THROUGH THEIR NATIONAL ANTARCTIC COMMITTEES TO:
 - (I) MAKE AN ASSESSMENT ON THE BASIS OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION OF THE POSSIBLE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE TREATY AREA AND OTHER ECOSYSTEMS DEPENDENT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT IF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND/OR EXPLOITATION WERE TO OCCUR THERE.

 IF POSSIBLE AND APPROPRIATE, GOVERNMENTS MAY WISH TO ASSIST THEIR NATIONAL ANTARCTIC COMMITTEES IN THIS UNDERTAKING BY APPROPRIATE MEANS:
 - (II) CONTINUE TO COORDINATE NATIONAL GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA WITH THE AIM OF OBTAINING FUNDAMENTAL SCIENTIFIC DATA ON THE GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE ANTARCTIC;
- (III) CONSIDER WHAT FURTHER SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS ARE NECESSARY IN PURSUIT OF THESE OBJECTIVES; LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 4. THE SUBJECT "ANTARCTIC RESOURCES--THE QUESTION OF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION." BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF THE NINTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING. END TEXT
- 2. REPORT OF THE MEETING INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH:

BEGIN TEXT

THE MEETING NOTED THAT ALL GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT THE EIGHTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING URGE STATES AND PERSONS TO REFRAIN FROM ACTIONS OF COMMERCIAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION WHILE, ACTING AS CONSULTATIVE PARTIES, THEY SEEK TIMELY AGREED SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF VALUABLE MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE

ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA. THE REPRESENTATIVES ALSO NOTED THE INTENTION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO KEEP THE QUESTION UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW IN THE LIGHT OF POSSIBLE ACTIONS BY OTHERS. END TEXT

3. RELEVANT CHANGES CLEARED WITH DEPARTMENT BY TELCON PRIOR TO USDEL AGREEMENT.

4. REGARDING PRESS COVERAGE, DEL PREFERS LOW PROFILE. BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ANTARCTIC TREATY, AGREEMENT DRAFT, RAW MATERIALS, CONSULTANTS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, MINERALS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 10 JUL 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE161761

Document Number: 1975STATE161761
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OES/APT/BMP:TSELLIN

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750238-0048

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750768/aaaaciwb.tel Line Count: 181 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN OES

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 4

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 STATE 145094
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 23 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EIGHTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

TAGS: TGEN, PLOS, SV, NO To: CANBERRA MULTIPLE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006